

Attorney Docket No. 5051.511

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

JUN 02 2003

In re: Cuomo et al.
Serial No.: 09/826,431
Filed: April 4, 2001
For: *ABSORBING AND NON-ADSORBING SURFACES FOR BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS*

Examiner: My-Chau T. Tran
Group Art Unit: 1639

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May 29, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Sir:

Applicants provide the present Request for Reconsideration to address the issues raised in the Office Action mailed January 29, 2003.

Remarks

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-20 and 33-54 are pending in the application. Claims 33-43 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-20, 44-45, and 47-54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claims 1-5, 8-9, 11-14, 44-45, 47-50, and 53-54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,494,712 to Hu et al. ("Hu"). Claims 1-20, 44-45, and 47-50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,063,081 to Cozzette et al. ("Cozzette"). Claim 46 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hu in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,403,630 to Matsui et al. ("Matsui").

Enablement

Reconsideration of the enablement rejection is requested in light of the *Wands* factors as specified in MPEP2164.01(a). The *Wands* factors are: (A) The breadth of the claims; (B) The nature of the invention; (C) The state of the prior art; (D) The level of one of ordinary skill; (E) the level of predictability in the art; (F) The amount